

Message Text

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42

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DOTE-00

EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 OC-06 CCO-00 /044 W

----- 121544

R 241320Z AUG 76

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4099

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

COMNAVTELCOM WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

COMIDEASTFOR

NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA

NAVCOMMSTA NEA MAKRI

CNO WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0651

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (CORRECTIONS PARA 1)

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, PINS ET

SUBJECT: TRANSPORTATION: PICTURE IMPROVES BUT PROBLEMS PERSIST

REF: ASMARA 0633 (DTG 111330Z AUG 76)

1. AIR TRANSPORTATION: THE RESUMPTION OF INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS IN AND OUT OF ASMARA TOOK EFFECT MONDAY AUGUST 23. THE SOUTHBOUND FLIGHT ARRIVED IN LATE MORNING FROM BAHRAIN AND THE NORTHBOUND FLIGHT FROM ADDIS TO ATHENS LANDED IN THE AFTERNOON. LOCAL EAL MANAGER STATES THAT INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS WILL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE EAL SCHEDULE ISSUED JULY 1, 1976 WITH SOME MODIFICATIONS. WITH THE IMPROVEMENT IN THE WEATHER AND SIX NORTHBOUND AND FOUR SOUTHBOUND INTERNATIONAL 720B FLIGHTS (REPLACING ADDIS-ASMARA-ADDIS ROUND TRIP FLIGHTS) WEEKLY SERVICE TO ASMARA SHOULD BECOME MORE CONFIDENTIAL

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REGULAR AND RELIABLE. LOCAL FLIGHTS TO MASSAWA RESUMED HALTINGLY IN MID-AUGUST. AT PRESENT ONLY A CHARTER SERVICE OF ADMAS AIR IS SERVING MASSAWA AND SEVERAL SCHEDULED FLIGHTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN CANCELLED BECAUSE

OF ADVERSE WEATHER AND COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS. EAL HAS JUST BEEN GRANTED PERMISSION TO RESUME SCHEDULED DC-3 SERVICE TO MASSAWA, BUT THE LOCAL MANAGER CLAIMS THAT EAL DOES NOT HAVE THE REQUIRED "EQUIPMENT" TO RESUME THIS SERVICE. THIS RELUCTANCE CLEARLY STEMS FROM CONTINUING CONCERN ABOUT SECURITY IN MASSAWA.

2. ROAD TRANSPORTATION: A 300 TRUCK CONVOY FROM ADDIS ARRIVED IN ASMARA ON THE AFTERNOON OF AUGUST 23 CARRYING A VARIETY OF CARGOES. IT REPORTEDLY COMPLETED THE JOURNEY FROM ADOWA TO ASMARA WITHOUT SERIOUS INCIDENT, ALTHOUGH IT WAS SUBJECT TO INSURGENT HARRASSMENT BETWEEN ADIGRAT AND ADOWA. THIS IS THE FIRST CONVOY FROM ADDIS IN ABOUT 80 DAYS AND WITH ITS ARRIVAL, IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE SOUTHBOUND CONVOY, WHICH IS FORMING IN THE STREETS OF ASMARA, WILL DEPART MOMENTARILY. THE MASSAWA-ASMARA FUEL CONVOYS WERE SUSPENDED FOR SEVERAL DAYS (AUGUST 20 TO 24) RESULTING IN A TEMPORARY CESSATION OF GASOLINE SALES. A LARGE SHIPMENT OF SILICONE SAND, HOWEVER, WHICH WAS ORDERED FROM ISRAEL BY THE SAVA GLASS BOTTLE FACTORY ARRIVED FROM MASSAWA DURING THE WEEKEND OF AUGUST 21.

SLUTZ

UNQUOTE

SLUTZ

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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